

26 APR 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

FROM : Robert W. Gambino  
Director of Security

SUBJECT : Public Relations Visits to CIA  
and a CIA Museum

REFERENCE : Memo to DCI from Assistant to the  
Director, dtd 31 Mar 76, same subj.

1. This memorandum is for your information only.

2. This Office fully appreciates the public relations value of offering visitors the opportunity to visit the Agency, view an exhibit, and return home with positive viewpoints. As you are aware, recent Headquarters exhibits which have been opened to family viewing, have necessitated increased manpower allocations on an overtime basis. Our primary concern is that a public museum located at Headquarters would require a very substantial increase in manpower to provide adequate security for visitor control.

3. In 1969, Director Richard Helms was considering a suggestion to locate an Agency museum or public exhibit room at the Smithsonian Institution. It was felt that this type of location would draw the greatest amount of tourist traffic and pose no security problems to the Headquarters compound. It is further suggested that consideration be given to dividing the museum concept into two parts; a classified museum, so located that it is viewed by Agency personnel only; and a non-classified museum that could be viewed by official visitors to this Agency, located in an area similar to the exhibit corridor or the Bubble.

4. Mr. Thuermer had cited the National Security Agency as an example of a classified-type organization having a museum. An appropriate official of that Agency was contacted by this Office in an effort to learn the physical layout and relative security procedures. The NSA museum is in the

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planning stages only, and two professional slots have been allocated for planning the museum. The NSA Cryptologic History Staff is the focal point group for the museum. They are currently planning for a museum in the Main Lobby under controlled access. Persons who are on official business and NSA applicants may view this unclassified exhibit. They further plan for a classified exhibit for employees only in a restricted area of the main building.

5. Although this Office is not enthusiastic about the concept of a museum at Headquarters, we will, of course, support any final plan that is adopted and will provide security guidance in any manner as the suggestion develops to the point where specific locations and types of exhibit items have been identified.

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Robert W. Gambino

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TO: Assistant to the DCI		
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FROM: Executive Officer, DDA		
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